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Senate-Motion

M'SIA FORTUNATE DR MAHATHIR CHOSE ABDULLAH AS SUCCESSOR

KUALA LUMPUR, Nov 6 (Bernama) -- A member of the Upper House said today that Malaysia is very fortunate that former Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad chose Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi as his successor.

Senator Datuk Nor Azah Awin said the choice was appropriate, considering that Abdullah was a man of integrity and an able leader.

"I believe that Malaysians will continue to enjoy development and peace under the leadership of the new Prime Minister," she said when supporting the motion of thanks to Dr Mahathir for his contributions as fourth Prime Minister for 22 years.

The motion was moved by Land and Cooperative Development Minister Tan Sri Kasitah Gaddam.

Nor Azah, who is also President of the Senators Club of Malaysia, said members of the Dewan Negara pledged their full support and close cooperation to Prime Minister Abdullah in his effort to lead the country to even greater heights of progress.

Earlier moving the motion, Kasitah said Dr Mahathir was a national treasure and a very illustrious leader for he not only ensured balanced development for the country but also succeeded in preserving family values.

"Most importantly he succeeded in formulating policies that moulded and strengthened unity among the various races," he said.

Kasitah said Dr Mahathir's contributions were immense, highly significant and of incalculable value.

He said the choice of Abdullah was most apt as he was the most suitable leader to lead the country and continue with the agenda of national excellence drawn up by Dr Mahathir.

"Apart from his wide political and national administrative experience, the Right Honourable Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi also has a strong religious background," Kasitah said.

From his sound religious education and upbringing, Abdullah was gentle but firm, moderate and ready to accept criticism.

Hence the people should have full confidence in the direction which he set for the country when speaking in the Dewan Rakyat early this week, Kasitah said.

-- BERNAMA

NM NM RON AAM